application when it is recommended by the State Government concerned. A total of 130 applications were deferred by BoA as on 31st March, 2008. Tax exemptions are granted to SEZ units/Developers as per the provisions of the SEZ Act, 05/SEZ Rules, 06.

Motive of setting up of SEZs

878. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the objective of passing the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) Act;

(b) whether Government has succeeded in providing employment to rural poor by converting agricultural land and by creating SEZs all over the country; and

(c) the details of SEZs into notified area so far approved, started functioning and figures of investment and employment provided during last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The main objectives of SEZs are: Generation of additional economic activity; Promotion of export of goods and services; Promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources; Creation of employment opportunities; Development of infrastructure facilities.

(b) and (c) 560 SEZs have been approved till date after SEZ Act came into force on 10th February, 2006. Out of which 286 SEZs have been notified till date. Investment and employment in the SEZs are as follows:—

Category of SEZ	Investment in crore Rupees	Employment (number of persons)
Notified SEZs after February 2006	91446	1,10,768
State/Private SEZs set up before 2006	6003.34	56,262
Government SEZs	4456.87	1,99,303
Total	1,01,906.21	3,66,333

Indian Leather Development Programme

879. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had implemented the Indian Leather Development Programme aiming towards modernizing the manufacturing capability, capacity building and improving infrastructure for the Leather Sector;

(b) if so, the details of projects, programmes implemented under this scheme during the current Five Year Plan and also the places covered;

(c) whether Government is aware that in Kanpur thousands of people are employed in this industry;

(d) if so, whether Government will consider to establish leather goods park in Kanpur and improve the infrastructure and develop human resource in the area and give export incentives; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has approved 11 sub-schemes under Indian Leather Development Programme (ILDP) for implementation during Eleventh plan period. The details are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Sub-scheme under ILDP	Allocation for Eleventh Five year plan (Rs. in crores)	Programme implemented and places covered
1	2	3	4
1.	Integrated Development of Leather Sector	253.43	Applicable to all India. 913 applications approved.
2.	Leather Complex, Nellore	29.00	Nellore in Andhra Pradesh.
3.	Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI), Fursatganj	7.17	Fursatganj in Uttar Pradesh.
4.	Footwear Complex, Chennai	3.00	Chennai in Tamil Nadu.
5.	Saddlery Development	10.00	Kanpur Region in Uttar Pradesh.
6.	Support to Artisan	40.00	Applicable to all India. Interventions in Rajasthan (Jodhpur, Jaipur and Alwar); Punjab; and Karnataka (Athani) are under implementation.
7.	Human Resource Development	60.00	Applicable to all India. Interventions at Agra and Kanpur in Uttar Pradesh are under implementation.
8.	Up gradation and Establishment of Institutional facilities	300.07	Three branches of Footwear Design and Development Institute (FDDI) would be established at Chennai (Tamil Nadu); Kolkata (West Bengal); and Rohtak (Haryana).

1	2	3	4
			Also, up-gradation of FDDI, Noida in Uttar Pradesh would be undertaken.
9.	Environment Initiatives	200.00	Applicable to all India. 6 proposals pertaining to the Tamil Nadu approved.
10.	Mission Mode	10.00	Not applicable as the sub-scheme aims towards undertaking investment promotion activities and studies for development of leather sector.
11.	Establishment of Training Centre in Madhya Pradesh	24.85	Imlikheda in Madhya Pradesh.
	TOTAL	937.52	

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is no proposal at this time for establishment of Leather Goods Park in Kanpur as there is no approved sub-scheme in this regard for implementation during the Eleventh Five Year Plan under ILDP. In order to achieve technology up-gradation/modernization of leather units, the leather industries in Kanpur Region are availing the assistance under the sub-scheme, "Integrated Development of Leather Sector" (IDLS) with an outlay of Rs. 253.43 crores being implemented in the Eleventh Plan. Further, leather industries situated in Kanpur Region could apply for assistance under the sub-scheme, 'Environmental Initiatives' in order to upgrade/install Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETPs). Under the Human Resource Development sub-scheme the Central Government has approved placement linked training programme for leather industry personnel of Kanpur. Fiscal incentives to boost export of leather and leather products including import of specified machinery at concessional rate of 5% duty, duty free import of critical inputs to the extent of 3% of Freight on Board (FOB) value of previous year export and financial assistance under Market Access Initiative and Market Development Assistance schemes are also available for the Kanpur based leather industries.

Indian trade with Gulf countries

†880. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of Indian trade with Gulf countries during the last three years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.